

From glowbugs@theporch.com Wed Jun 26 10:31:16 1996  
Return-Path: glowbugs@theporch.com  
Received: from uro (localhost.theporch.com [127.0.0.1]) by uro.theporch.com  
(8.7.5/AUX-3.1.1) with SMTP id KAA24150; Wed, 26 Jun 1996 10:24:26 -0500 (CDT)  
Date: Wed, 26 Jun 1996 10:24:26 -0500 (CDT)  
Message-Id: <199606261524.KAA24150@uro.theporch.com>  
Errors-To: ws4s@midtenn.net  
Reply-To: glowbugs@theporch.com  
Originator: glowbugs@theporch.com  
Sender: glowbugs@theporch.com  
Precedence: bulk  
From: glowbugs@theporch.com  
To: Multiple recipients of list <glowbugs@theporch.com>  
Subject: GLOWBUGS digest 222  
X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0c -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas  
X-Comment: Please send list server requests to listproc@theporch.com  
Status: 0

#### GLOWBUGS Digest 222

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) RF Gain and CW  
by hrsil@flinet.com (Henry Silvia)
- 2) Re: RF Gain and CW  
by rdkeys@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu
- 3) Re: RF Gain and CW  
by Steve Ellington <n4lq@iglou.com>
- 4) May you all have fair winds and following seas.....  
by rdkeys@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu

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Date: Tue, 25 Jun 1996 12:00:24 -0400 (EDT)  
From: hrsil@flinet.com (Henry Silvia)  
To: glowbugs@theporch.com  
Subject: RF Gain and CW  
Message-ID: <199606251600.MAA13257@ns1.flinet.com>

>2). Buy a set of bandpass filters for those damn kenicoyasawhooies  
> that don't have any front end tuned circuits!!!!!! Maybe teach  
> the folks what RF gain controls are for in CW operation?  
>

>73/ZUT DE NA4G/Bob  
>  
>

Just a quick question about the functions of an RF gain control during CW.  
>Maybe teach

>> me what RF gain controls are for in CW operation?

Thanks, Henry

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Date: Tue, 25 Jun 1996 13:19:14 -0400 (EDT)  
From: rdkeys@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu  
To: hrsil@flinet.com  
Cc: rdkeys@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu (), boatanchors@theporch.com  
Subject: Re: RF Gain and CW  
Message-ID: <9606251719.AA100799@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu>

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> Just a quick question about the functions of an RF gain control during CW.  
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> >> me what RF gain controls are for in CW operation?  
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> Thanks, Henry

Basically, on CW, one needs to follow the old school and run the audio up and the RF gain down. That keeps front ends (or lacks thereof) happier.

It has been my experience over the past 15 or so years that most ops don't remember to turn the audio up until background noise is just audible and run the RF as the gain control on CW. It makes a difference on crowded bands, especially with kenicoyawhooies. It seems no one has taught such folks how to operate CW on their ricenboxes. Thus, they complain like hell, every field day and wonder why, when they think they are being interfered with.

On field day, it can make the difference between hearing a weak station and not hearing it. The front ends on most average kenicoyawhooies are quite hot, and have no tuned circuits. Thus, anything in the passband of the frontend (which, because of no tuned circuits is very wide) will kill the AVC and your weak signals drop into the mud. VHF folks want to call that desensitizing the thing.

Traditional real boatanchors all have RF gain controls, that were designed to be used and not played with as an afterthought. Things like the RAL,

the RBC and many naval receivers with two or more sets of tuned circuits in the RF stages, just don't seem to have that problem.

Case in point..... When we set up the QRP (latest ICOM 906? or whatever that little toy cb looking thing that covers all possible frequencies is) station, it also had some overload problems in the front end department when listening into the local contest half of the FD operation. It basically could pick up intermod of some sort all over the same band the other station was operating on. The RBC with its real tuned front end spat in its face and kept on truckin! I could copy a signal 5 khz off the contest station that was mud in the icom.

Something to be said for real tuned circuits in your radio and a real RF gain on CW.

73/ZUT DE NA4G/Bob

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Date: Tue, 25 Jun 1996 13:14:04 -0400 (EDT)  
From: Steve Ellington <n4lq@iglou.com>  
To: rdkeys@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu  
Subject: Re: RF Gain and CW  
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.3.93.960625130505.29790A-1000000@iglou2>

> >  
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> > >

In essence, which is sometimes an odor, Those whooies have exactly that in their front ends ie. bandpass filters. Since they are not tunable, they will pass anything on or near the band of operation right on to the first mixer. Note that most of the so called RF gain controls on them vary the gain of the I.F. amps and not the front end amplifier. Many newer rigs have either a pre-amp control or attenuator that controls the front end gain.

The reason for the broadband front end is because they usually use the transmitter's bandpass filters for receiving. This all came about because of the "no-tune" transmitter feature. The net result is of course, front end overload, strange sounding images and key clix from BA Bob's rig.

There is a possibility that an antenna tuner would help make up for some

of the missing selectivity.

BTW....I'm now a proud RAL-7 owner. I just got it hooked up this morning and the first thing I heard was CW from WMU ( I believe it was). Boy did it sound good. Too bad I had to rush off to work.

Steve Ellington N4LQ@IGLOU.COM Louisville, Ky

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Date: Tue, 25 Jun 1996 15:13:38 -0400 (EDT)  
From: rdkeys@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu  
To: boatanchors@theporch.com, glowbugs@theporch.com  
Cc: rdkeys@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu ()  
Subject: May you all have fair winds and following seas.....  
Message-ID: <9606251913.AA100982@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu>

Due to circumstances from the bean counters and taskmasters at higher eschelons, I find that I must pull the e-plug here at the grist mill. As of gohome time today, I must unsubscribe from the BA and GB lists.

It is with a great fondness and remembrance that I will carry with me for a long time to come, a small treasure amongst the trials and tribulations of life, the gentle discourse and interaction with all my fellow friends amongst the Boatanchorites and Glowbuggites over these past several years.

Much fine wisdom have I learned from all of you, on many and varied topics concerning our beloved iron trove and breadboard treasures. Although I have tried to contribute as I may, and not keep the bandwidth too broad, perhaps there have been a few tid-bits of wisdom that I have passed back in kind.

Until I find a home-bound internet provider, I will be plying the waters afar into the ether, and will gladly look forward to your fine T8 signals upon the gentle ethers on the BA/GB QRG of 3579R545 and 7050, as time may permit, at the appointed hours of 0100/0200 UTC.

With warmest regards, best wishes, and a touch o' de' ol' salty dawg, I remain, most respectfully yours.....

Boatanchor Bob, the ol' CW Pfarte.....  
rdkeys@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu

73/ZUT VA DE NA4G/Bob

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\* Morse has been in the family for over 100 years. \*

\* Morse radiotelegraphy (Spark/CW) has been in the family since 1914. \*

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\* May you have fair winds and following seas on your watch at the key. \*

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End of GLOWBUGS Digest 222

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